This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 - 37.          (cancelled)

Claim 38.     (new)          A method of playing a game, comprising:

(a)     beginning the game with a player's game piece operatively on a starting non-absorbent point in a row of at least two non-absorbent points, said row bounded on one end by a first absorbent point and on the other end by a second absorbent point;

(b)     placing at least one wager that the game piece will be moved to the first absorbent point before being moved to the second absorbent point;

(c)     observing an event that dictates to which point the game piece must be moved, said dictated point selected from the points on either side of the point on which the game piece is operatively on;

(d)     determining whether the dictated point is a non-absorbent point, the first absorbent point, or the second absorbent point;

(e)     moving the game piece to said dictated point and repeating at

least steps (c) and (d) if the dictated point is a non-absorbent

point;

(f)     awarding the player the at least one wager if the dictated point is

the first absorbent point; and

(g)     denying the player the at least one wager if the dictated point is

the second absorbent point.


Claim 39.     (new)          The method of claim 38 further comprising calculating an

inchoate cargo in relation to the player's wager if the dictated point is a non-

absorbent point.


Claim 40.     (new)          The method of claim 38 further comprising selecting a

starting non-absorbent point from more than one available starting non-

absorbent points.


Claim 41.     (new)          The method of claim 38 wherein the starting non-

absorbent point becomes a first or second absorbent point after the first move of

the game.


Claim 42.     (new)          The method of claim 38 wherein the observed event

involves one or more decks of cards, one or more dice, one or more coins, a

roulette wheel, a sporting event, a horse race, a meteorological event, or a

4     computer.


Claim 43.    (new)     A method of playing a game, comprising:

2     (a)    beginning the game with a player's game piece operatively on a

starting non-absorbent point on a multi-dimensional game board

4     comprising a plurality of non-absorbent points surrounded by a

plurality of absorbent points;

6     (b)    placing at least one wager that the game piece will be moved to a

first absorbent point before being moved to a second absorbent

8     point;

(c)    observing an event that dictates which adjacent point the game

10     piece must be moved to;

(d)    determining whether said dictated adjacent point is a non-

12     absorbent point, a first absorbent point, or a second absorbent

point;

14     (e)    moving the game piece to said dictated adjacent point and

repeating at least steps (c) and (d) if said dictated adjacent point is

16     a non-absorbent point;

(f)    awarding the player the at least one wager if said dictated

18     adjacent point is a first absorbent point; and

(g)     denying the player the at least one wager if said dictated adjacent

20              point is a second absorbent point.

Claim 44.     (new)          The method of claim 43 wherein the observed event

2          involves a first dice and a second dice,

wherein half of the faces on the first dice dictate moving the game piece in a

4          first direction and the other half of the faces on the first dice dictate

moving the game piece in a second direction opposite said first direction,

6          wherein half of the faces on the second dice dictate moving the game piece

in a third direction and the other half of the faces on the second dice

8          dictate moving the game piece in a fourth direction opposite said third

direction.

Claim 45.     (new)          The method of claim 43 wherein the first direction is

2          oblique to said third direction.

Claim 46.     (new)          The method of claim 43 wherein the non-absorbent points

2          are oriented in a north, south, east, and west orientation to one another or a

northwest, northeast, southwest, or southeast orientation to one another;

Claim 47.     (new)          The method of claim 43 wherein one or more absorbent

2  points are interspersed among the non-absorbent points at predetermined

locations in addition to the plurality of absorbent points that surround the non-

4  absorbent points.

Claim 48.     (new)      The method of claim 43 further comprising calculating an

2  inchoate cargo in relation to the player's wager if the dictated adjacent point is a

non-absorbent point.

Claim 49.     (new)      The method of claim 43 the wager involves a selection of

2  a particular one or more first absorbent points from more than one first

absorbent points.

Claim 50.     (new)      The method of claim 43 wherein the wager involves a

2  selection of a particular one or more second absorbent points from more than

one second absorbent points.

Claim 51.     (new)      A method of playing a game, comprising:

2  (a)    placing at least one wager that a game piece will be moved to a

first absorbent point before being moved to a second absorbent

4  point, said wager being placed while said game piece is on a non-

absorbent point that is adjacent to at least one other non-absorbent

6          point;

(b)    observing an event that dictates to which point the game piece

8              must be moved;

(c)    determining whether the point to which the game piece must be

10             moved is a non-absorbent point, a first absorbent point, or a

second absorbent point;

12    (d)    if the point to which the game piece must be moved is a non-

absorbent point, moving the game piece to said non-absorbent

14             point and repeating at least steps (b) and (c);

(e)    awarding the player the at least one wager if the point to which

16             the game piece must be moved is a first absorbent point; and

(f)    denying the player the at least one wager if the point to which the

18             game piece must be moved is a second absorbent point.


Claim 52.    (new)        The method of claim 51 further comprising calculating an

2      inchoate cargo in relation to the player's wager if the point to which the game

piece must be moved is a non-absorbent point.


Claim 53.    (new)        The method of claim 51 further comprising selecting a

2      starting non-absorbent point from more than one available starting non-

absorbent points.

Claim 54.     (new)          The method of claim 51 the wager involves a selection of

2          a particular one or more first absorbent points from more than one first

absorbent points.

Claim 55.     (new)          The method of claim 51 the wager involves a selection of

2          a particular one or more second absorbent points from more than one second

absorbent points.

Claim 56.     (new)          The method of claim 51 wherein the observed event

2          involves one or more decks of cards, one or more dice, one or more coins, a

roulette wheel, a sporting event, a horse race, a meteorological event, or a

4          computer.

Claim 57.     (new)          The method of claim 51 wherein the wager is selected

2          from a group consisting of a sink bet, a safe bet, a sink-emperor bet, a safe-

emperor bet, an insurance bet, a wager based on duration, a place bet, a wager

4          that the game-piece will enter one or more given states prior to entering one or

more other states, and any combination thereof.

Claim 58.     (new)          The method of claim 51 wherein the first absorbent point

2          corresponds to a safe point or a swim point and wherein the second absorbent

point corresponds to a sink point or an edge point.

Claim 59.  (new)  The method of claim 51 wherein the game is played on a

game board comprising one or more player stations, wherein each player station

comprises one or more betting areas.